

about the new medicines is they help to lower blood pressure and they can be helpful in dealing with a wide variety of health concerns, including cholesterol and other problems seniors have.

Could the Senator tell Members a little bit about how the model SPICE benefit was devised? It seems to me the Senator is trying to focus on wellness, holding costs down, and making prescriptions affordable.

Ms. SNOWE. The Senator raises an important question about the choices that would be available to seniors by creating this board. We look at the needs of seniors. What are the prescription drugs seniors most use? What is most available? What is out there already for insurance coverage? Where are the gaps? This board will have the ability to devise a number of plans across the board and make it available to seniors. Then they can make decisions as to whether or not that plan is tailored to their needs, similar to what Members of Congress get.

Members of Congress can avail themselves to an array of plans that provide for prescription drug coverage. The seniors in America should have the same choices. We want them to have choices and to avail themselves, as Senator WYDEN indicated, to the state-of-the-art, advanced developments in prescription drugs and medications.

We did not rely on Government programs, a big bureaucracy of price controls in order to achieve prescription drug coverage because there are bills out there in the House and the Senate that will either control the price of drugs or create a huge Government bureaucracy or impinge on the Medicare Program that already has significant financial problems.

Could the Senator tell Members how our bill will help seniors without relying on Government price controls but at the same time giving them the ability to have access to the most advanced prescription drug coverage in America?

Mr. WYDEN. I appreciate my colleague's question. We use marketplace forces. We use a dose of free enterprise, how our Federal employee health plan works.

What troubles me is a lot of those other bills focus on an approach of Government purchasing the medicine, but that will shift the costs onto a lot of other people.

I am very fearful that under some of those approaches, particularly the ones in the House, because Medicare essentially would control prices, they will shift the costs. What will happen is an African American woman who is 27, maybe single with a couple of children, will end up with a higher prescription drug bill because that person will end up seeing the costs shifted when prices are controlled just for the Medicare Program.

I think we ought to use marketplace forces, competitive principles. That is

what our legislation does. It will prevent cost shifting and help to hold down costs for all Americans.

I yield the floor.

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I compliment my colleague, Senator WYDEN, for the comments he made. It is critically important to understand the differences in our approach as compared to others for controlling the price of drugs which will have an impact on the developments that have occurred in prescription drugs in America.

Most importantly, Senator WYDEN and I have come together on an approach we think is reasonable both from a fiscal standpoint as well as from a policy standpoint. We are allowing competition; we are allowing choice. We don't create a bureaucracy; we don't affect Medicare. We provide a financing mechanism.

It truly is a reasonable solution to a crisis that is facing America's seniors. I encourage my colleagues to take a very close look at this bipartisan proposal, the only one that has been introduced in the Senate, to talk to Members to see if we can come together so we can address this issue this year in this Congress.

I yield the floor.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona is now recognized. The Chair will note the time allocated to the Senator from Arizona was to expire at 11 o'clock. The additional time has been taken by unanimous consent that has almost brought us to that time.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to complete a statement, which is about 5 minutes.

Mr. BRYAN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the Senator is granted 5 minutes. Is there objection?

Mr. BRYAN. May I ask my colleague to yield for a unanimous consent request?

Mr. KYL. Certainly.

Mr. BRYAN. The Senator from Nevada asks unanimous consent that following Senator KYL and following Senator ROBERTS, the Senator from Nevada have 20 minutes to speak.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BRYAN. I thank the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona is recognized for 5 minutes. Following the Senator from Arizona, the Senator from Kansas will be recognized for 15 minutes. Following that, the Senator from Nevada will be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Senator from Arizona.

JUSTICE SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, Sandra Day O'Connor was born on March 26, 1930,

the first of three children of Harry A. Day and Ada Mae Wilkey Day. After attending secondary school in El Paso, she pursued her undergraduate education at Stanford University.

Justice O'Connor initially studied economics at Stanford with the ultimate goal of running her family ranch. She was uninterested in the law until she took a business law class her junior year. She fell in love with law. Justice O'Connor enrolled in Stanford law school, and was able to graduate with her undergraduate and law degrees in 6 years. She excelled in law school, becoming a member of the Stanford Law Review's board of editors and graduating third in her class. While in Stanford Law School, she met her future husband, John Jay O'Connor III, as well as future Chief Justice William Rehnquist.

Upon graduating, the only job offer she received was for a position as a legal secretary. Unable as a female attorney to find employment with a private firm, she became a deputy county attorney in California. Soon after, her husband joined the Judge Advocate General's office for the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany. Justice O'Connor joined her husband overseas as a civilian lawyer for the Quartermaster Corps.

The young couple returned to the United States in 1957, settling in Phoenix, Arizona. Within 6 years, the O'Connor's had three sons: Scott, Brian, and Jay. In 1958, after the birth of her first child, Justice O'Connor and a friend started their own law firm. Two years later, after the birth of her second child, Justice O'Connor became a full-time mother and immersed herself in volunteer work. She was a volunteer juvenile-court referee, chair of a juvenile home visiting board, and she organized a lawyer-referral service. In 1965, she returned to public service as an assistant state attorney general for Arizona.

In 1969, Justice O'Connor was appointed to a vacated seat in the Arizona Senate by the County Board of Supervisors. She won reelection to the Senate for two successive terms. Not surprisingly, she excelled as a state senator, and in 1972 she was elected majority leader. As would become standard for her, she was the first woman to hold such a senior legislative office anywhere in the United States.

In 1974, Justice O'Connor was elected to the Maricopa County Superior Court, where she served for 5 years. She was later encouraged to run for Governor, but declined. In 1979, Governor Bruce Babbitt's first appointee to the Arizona Court of Appeals was Sandra Day O'Connor.

On August 19, 1981, President Reagan nominated Justice O'Connor to become the 102nd Supreme Court Justice, replacing the retiring Justice Potter Stewart. She was the first woman